

Message Text

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SUBJ: REPORTS OF ALCOA AND REYNOLDS PAYMENTS ABROAD

REF : PARAMARIBO 0629

1. FOLLOWING LOCAL PRESS REPORTS OF ALCOA AND REYNOLDS INVESTIGATIONS OF QUESTIONABLE PAYMENTS ABROAD, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FRED DERBY HAS ENTERED AN INTERPELLATION IN PARLIAMENT ASKING MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND POLICE WHAT STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO INVESTIGATE AND CLARIFY THE MATTER, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF SURINAMERS. DERBY, WHO IS MEMBER OF PNR PARTY HEADED BY ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MINISTER EDDY BRUMA, IS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE PARANAM MINE-WORKERS UNION WHICH STAGED JUNE SITDOWN STRIKE AGAINST SURALCO, ALCOA'S WHOLLY-OWNED SURINAM SUBSIDIARY, WHICH RESULTED IN COMPROMISE SETTLEMENT ON WORKERS' BENEFITS. UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF DERBY'S INTERPELLATION, AS REPORTED IN JULY 29 PRESS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

2. IT IS REPORTED IN THE LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PRESS THAT THE AMERICAN ALUMINUM COMPANIES ALCOA AND REYNOLDS HAVE ISSUED STATEMENTS TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY HAVE PAID BRIBES
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IN A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES, INCLUDING SURINAM, TO PERSONS,

OFFICIALS AND POLITICAL PARTIES, WITH THE INTENTION OF INFLUENCING THEM TO FURTHER THE INTERESTS OF THE COMPANIES NAMED. IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES THESE AND SIMILAR STATEMENTS BY AMERICAN COMPANIES HAVE LED TO LEGAL ACTIONS, WITH A VIEW TOWARDS RESTORING THE PRESTIGE OF THE COUNTRIES. THE INVESTIGATION AND THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE LOCKHEED AFFAIR IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES ARE GENERALLY KNOWN. AND RECENTLY REPORTS REACHED US THAT FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN TANAKA HAS BEEN DETAINED AND/OR ARRESTED ON THE GROUNDS OF ACCEPTING LOCKHEED MONEY.

3. (A) DOES THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND POLICE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAM NOT SHARE THE JUDGMENT OF THE UNDERSIGNED THAT THE PRESTIGE OF THE YOUNG REPUBLIC OF SURINAM HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY DAMAGED INTERNATIONALLY BY THE ABOVE-MENTIONED STATEMENTS AND THAT THIS MUST BRING ABOUT A FUNDAMENTAL INVESTIGATION INTO THE CORRECTNESS OF THESE STATEMENTS?

(B) DOES THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND POLICE NOT SHARE THE OPINION OF THE UNDERSIGNED THAT IF PERSONS, OFFICIALS AND/OR POLITICAL PARTIES HAVE RECEIVED BRIBES FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE INTERESTS OF THE ABOVE-NAMED COMPANIES, THEN THEY HAVE PREFERRED THESE INTERESTS FOR THE SAKE OF MONEY ABOVE THE COMMON INTEREST, THUS ABOVE THE INTEREST OF THE SURINAM NATION, AND THAT THE STRONGEST ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST ANY SUCH UNSOCIAL BEHAVIOR?

(C) DOES THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND POLICE NOT AGREE WITH THE UNDERSIGNED THAT IT WOULD BE IN CONFLICT WITH THE CORRUPTION-FREE POLICY PROMISED IN THE GOVERNMENT'S DECLARATION IF THE GOVERNMENT OF SURINAM SHALL TAKE NO MEASURES IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT IT IS ASSERTED IN THE STATEMENTS THAT PAYMENTS TOOK PLACE NOT ONLY IN EARLIER YEARS BUT ALSO IN 1974?

(D) CAN THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND POLICE INFORM THE UNDERSIGNED WHETHER STEPS HAVE ALREADY BEEN TAKEN BY HIS MINISTRY TO OBTAIN THE STATEMENTS MADE TO THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION; AND, IF THAT IS THE CASE, CAN THE MINISTER THEN INFORM THE UNDERSIGNED WHAT MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY HIM? IF NOT, IS THE MINISTER RESOLVED TO MAKE AN UNCLASSIFIED

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INVESTIGATION TO CLARIFY THIS MATTER WHICH IS UNSAVORY AND DAMAGING TO OUR COUNTRY? UNQUOTE.
ZURHELLEN

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